

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

August 6, 2007

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CITY COUNCIL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

TO: Councilmembers

FROM: Kimberly Ribellia, Senior Advisor *Kim*  
Office of Councilmember Donovan M. Dela Cruz

RE: 2007 NACo Annual Conference Trip Report

Attached is the report and findings of the NACo Annual Conference in Richmond, VA, July 14-18, 2007.

If you have questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Attachment

## **Friday, July 13, 2007**

Arrive in Richmond, VA

Check in – Richmond Marriott Hotel

Register for Conference

## **Saturday, July 14, 2007**

**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**      Transportation Steering Committee Meeting

- Topics included the future of the Federal Surface Transportation Program, Status of Airport and Aviation Legislation, Report of the Mass Transit-Railroad Subcommittee, and Status of the Intergovernmental Forum on Transportation Finance.

**6:30 pm – 9:00 pm**      Board of Director's Event, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

## **Sunday, July 15, 2007**

**9:00 am – 11:00 am**      Opening General Session

- NACo President Colleen Landkamer welcomed all of the NACo attendees to the 2007 NACo Annual Conference.
- Feature Speaker for the Opening Session was Mr. Tucker Carlson, Journalist, News Anchor, and Host of MSNBC's "Tucker."
  - Mr. Tucker spoke about the political climate in Washington, D.C., as well as the up-coming 2008 Presidential election.

**11:00 am – 3:00 pm**      Exhibit Hall Opens

**2:00 pm – 3:15 pm**      Attended Educational Workshop Block I

- *How to Create Local Housing Trust Funds – A Dedicated Funding Source to House Your County's Workforce*
  - The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County, VA gave a short presentation on the challenges faced in his county regarding Affordable Housing. Homes assessed values and land value in Fairfax County increased by 21% while creating a 30,000 unit deficit in Affordable Housing units. Mr. Connolly also mentioned there were no incentives for developers to create Affordable Housing.

- Fairfax County created a task force to provide recommendations to the Supervisors to increase the supply of Affordable Housing.
  - One solution was to lower the property tax
  - Develop tax credits for developers to construct Affordable Housing
  - Approved inclusionary zoning as a way to encourage Affordable Housing
  - Required homes to remain affordable for 20 – 30 years
- Ms. Linda Peterzon, Director, King County Community Services Division, King County, Washington, gave a short presentation on King County's Housing Finance Program. The "Local Housing Opportunity Fund" includes monies from a document recording fee surcharge, Veterans & Human Services Levy, and County funds – general and other program funds to be used for Affordable Housing.
  - Identified priorities for the fund, such as:
    - Permanent supportive housing
    - Very low income for homeless/those at risk of homelessness
    - In 2006: 190 units for household below 30% of median income; 146 for those between 41-50% of median; 57 for those between 51% and 80% of median
  - Other Challenges Facing our Housing Trust Funds:
    - Delays due to bottleneck for Low Income Housing Tax Credit and WA State Housing Trust Fund Investments
    - Concerns about timely expenditures/possible interim uses of fund balance
    - Regional vs. sub-regional and local priorities
    - Potential "bow wave" in future for renewals of services and operating support

**3:45 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Attended Educational Workshop Block II**

- *Standards and Certification: How Green is Green?*
  - Leaders in the green building movement addressed delegates about the growing trend of 'green' building. Mr. Jason Hartke, manager of state and local advocacy for the U.S. Green Building Council, spoke to delegates about Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

(LEED) certification, indicating that there are currently more than 6,780 registered projects. The certification can save up to 30 percent in energy costs and reduce waste anywhere from 50 to 90 percent.

- Ms. Emily English, green building program manager for the National Association of Home Builders, spoke about her organization's model green building guidelines, as well as touching on how far the practice had spread. English cited statistics that said that 78 percent of cities are planning to encourage green building while similar numbers of jurisdictions are in the process of "greening" themselves.
- Sarasota County Commissioner Shannon Staub spoke about her county's diverse practices for encouraging green building, including expediting the permitting process for green builders and water conservation initiatives.

**6:30 pm – 10:00 pm**

NACo Conference Wide Event, Jamestown, VA

**Monday, July 16, 2007**

**9:00 am – 10:15 am**

Attended Educational Session Block III

- *County Leadership for Regional Collaboration and Intergovernmental Planning*
  - Presenters highlighted both state-mandated and voluntary programs that address a variety of planning issues including growth management; land use; economic development; sewer, water and transportation infrastructure; and public facilities.
  - Speakers will highlight best practices when coordinating resources amongst different municipalities within a county or neighboring county.
  - Mr. Keith Cubic, Planning Director, Douglas County, Oregon, gave a short presentation on their model for regional collaboration and intergovernmental planning.

Douglas County plan focused on Urban Growth Management for the joint management of the Urban Growth Area and the for coordination of land use activity in identified areas of mutual interest.

- The plan specified procedures for:
  - Processing land use actions
  - Approvals for structural development
  - Floodplain certification
  - Urban services within the Urban Growth Area
  - Coordination with urban service providers
  - Standards for urban growth boundary streets
- Intergovernmental agreements help to coordinate multiple cities within a county
- The State of Oregon requires counties to develop population forecasting so that counties can develop a plan for the needs of their counties, i.e. infrastructure
- Mr. Dennis Sandquist, Deputy Director, Planning, Building, and Development, Lake County, Illinois, gave a brief presentation on Lake County's Intergovernmental Planning for Economic Development.
  - Illinois is very conservative compared to Oregon, with respect to Intergovernmental Agreements within the state. Counties do not have as much flexibility as Oregon.
  - Lake County was loosing the potential for big companies to locate within its county limits to counties in Southern Wisconsin.
    - Lake County, Village of Old Mill Creek and Village of Wadsworth municipalities developed an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) area which created a cohesive gateway to Lake County

- The IGA promoted high quality economic development :
  - Foster new and retained jobs
  - Established a diversified tax base
  - Provide convenient community services for local residents

**10:45 pm – 12:00 pm**      Attended Educational Session Block IV

- *From Vacant to Usable – Applying Technology to Prioritize Redevelopment of Vacant sites*
  - Westchester County, N.Y. and Philadelphia are two jurisdictions that are using GIS as a tool to redevelop vacant sites. Ms. Ana Hiraldo-Gomez, a GIS specialist with Westchester, shared lessons from her county's Hudson River Estuary Program.
    - With state and federal assistance, the program conducted a comprehensive GIS-based mapping inventory of vacant properties in areas of 14 Hudson River-front communities to preserve open space. Among the project's goals: improving community-wide support for conserving open space, and promoting public awareness and appreciation for the Hudson River.
  - Mr. Robert Cheetham is president and CEO of Avencia, a software company that has worked with Philadelphia to identify marketable brownfields sites using mapping technologies and geography. With his firm's help, the city was able to cross-reference address data from several departments that previously used different standards to locate parcels.

**2:15 pm – 4:00 pm**      General Session

- Dr. Sylvia Earle, marine biologist and explorer in residence for National Geographic, spoke about mankind's impact on aquatic ecosystems. Dr. Earle spoke about her expeditions and the fragility of the oceans' ecosystem and what needs to be done to preserve our precious resource. Dr. Earle urged county officials to take action in order to strike a balance between using the planet's natural resources and preserving the ecological systems that sustain life.

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2007 NACo Annual Conference Report

**Tuesday, July 17, 2007**

**10:30 am – 12:00 pm** Closing Session

- Mr. Antwone Fisher was the featured speaker for the closing sessions and gave an excellent presentation how he overcame various challenges in his life, such as being born in a women's prison, a young child growing up in the foster care system, homeless at the young age of 17, joining the Navy and a Hollywood screenwriter.
- Senator Hillary Clinton was also the featured speaker for the closing session and spoke briefly about how she, as President, she would work to restore the federal partnership with local government. Senator Clinton stated that the federal government needs to end the unfunded mandates and find ways to work together again. Senator Clinton also stressed the importance of fully funding the Payment In Lieu of Taxes program (PILT), and the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG).

**2:15 pm – 3:45 pm** Annual Business Meeting and Election of Board Officers and Directors

- Honorable Teresa Altemus, Gloucester County, VA was elected as NACo's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Resolutions recommended by the various NACo committees were passed at this meeting

**Immediately following the Election**

- New NACo/NACoRF Board of Directors Organizational Meeting
- Councilmember Dela Cruz was appointed by President Eric Coleman to serve his 5<sup>th</sup> term as a NACo Board of Director for the coming 2007 – 2008 year.

**7:00 pm – 10:00 pm** Inaugural Gala Reception

City Council  
City and County of Honolulu**CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT**

Date: July 26, 2007

Traveler: Kimberly Ribellia, Senior Advisor to Councilmember Donovan M. Dela Cruz


Event: NACo 2007 Annual Conference and Exposition, July 13-17, 2007

Location: Richmond, Virginia


Dates: From July 12, 2007 (left Oahu) To July 22, 2007 (returned to Oahu)

Description	Amount	Notes:
1. Registration Fee	\$0.00	direct City payment of \$440.00 (FY06-07 funds) to NACo via Vo. #CCL144
2. Airfare	\$0.00	direct City payment of \$1,187.46 (FY06-07 & FY07-08 funds); P.O. #BY5630
3. Hotel	\$728.85	Rate/day: \$145.77 No. of Billable Days: 5.00
4. Meals	\$157.83	fourteen (14) receipts (FY07-08 funds)
5. Ground Transportation	\$108.00	six (6) receipts (FY07-08 funds)
6. Tips	\$35.00	five (5) receipts & three (3) certifications (FY07-08 funds)
7. Other	\$55.34	Fedex charges to ship NACo material to Honolulu (FY07-08 funds)
Other	\$7.00	hotel parking, July 13, 2007 (FY07-08 funds)
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	\$1,092.02	Reimbursement of \$1,092.02 equals the advance of expenses via personal funds by the traveler. \$1,092.02 plus registration fee of \$440.00 plus airfare of \$1,187.46 (direct City payments) equals the <b>grand total of \$2,719.48</b> .

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:



Signature of Traveler



Date